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November 17, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

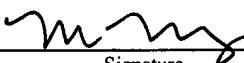
Applicants: George E. Barringer, Jr., Stephen C. Phillips, and Mark J. Phillips
Application No.: 10/600,177 Group: 2122
Filed: June 20, 2003 Examiner: Not assigned
Confirmation No.: 9752
For: Method and Apparatus For Operating An Automated Biomolecular Preparation System

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on:

11/17/04

Date



Signature

Meredith Murray

Typed or printed name of person signing certificate

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Second Preliminary Amendment for filing in the above-identified application.

Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a Small Entity Statement previously submitted.

A Small Entity Statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(COL. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(COL. 2)	(COL. 3) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
TOTAL	66	MINUS	* 66	
INDEP	7	MINUS	** 7	
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM				

* not fewer than 20

** not fewer than 3

SMALL ENTITY		
RATE	ADDIT. FEE	
X \$ 9	\$	
X \$43	\$	

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY		
RATE	ADDIT. FEE	
X \$18	\$	
X \$86	\$	

TOTAL = \$ 0

TOTAL = \$ 0

Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0380 for the following fees:

[] Petition for [] month Extension of Time \$ _____
[] Amendment Fee \$ _____
[] Other Fees: _____ \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ 0

A check is enclosed in payment of the following fees:

[] Petition for [] month Extension of Time \$ _____
[] Amendment Fee \$ _____
[] Other Fees:

TOTAL: \$ 0

[X] A general authorization is hereby granted to charge Deposit Account No. 08-0380 for any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 in order to maintain pendency of this application. A copy of this authorization is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By Kraig K. Anderson
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Dated: November 17, 2004

ITW



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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows: